



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:
WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 24, 1858.

The Kansas Matter.

The Baltimore Exchange says:—"We have advocated the admission of Kansas into the Union as a State under the Lecompton constitution. At the same time, we do not think it necessary to regard every man who differs from us on this particular question, as either a knave or fool. An honest and sincere conviction of the soundness of our own views, is not necessarily inconsistent with due respect for the opinions and motives of those who may think otherwise. The whole Kansas question is surrounded with difficulties on every side, and in its discussion and solution there is ample room for an honest difference of opinion among honorable men. Truth, we do not lie, at the bottom of a well, and the platform has not yet decided the depths of that abyss where lies buried the truth in regard to this Kansas matter. A perfect labyrinth of fraud and falsehood, on both sides, interposes an almost insurmountable obstacle to the successful prosecution of any inquiries having for their object the discovery of the rights and the wrongs of Kansas history. Enough is known, at all events, to convict both parties, the Free-State men, and the Pro-Slavery men, of such a persistent course of fraud and violence, as ought to deprive either of the slightest claim to the sympathy or support of any honest man. Where both alike have sinned so deeply, to attempt to apportion out the exact measure of blame which belongs to each, we are by no means disposed to enter. On the contrary, we are ready to accept any plan which promises a speedy and equitable determination of the matter, and which will put a stop to this never-ending agitation of the one tiresome and disgusting question of Kansas—Kansas." We are inclined to believe that these are the feelings and sentiments of a great majority of the conservative men of the country, with regard to this Kansas question.

The War Department seems to be the special object of attack on the part of the new "Republican" party—and their presses are continually getting up charges against those in authority in that Department. The New York Courier alleges certain matters to be inquired into, concerning contracts for Corn, &c., to supply the U. S. troops engaged in the expedition to Utah. We presume the Department will willingly submit to an investigation into these charges. We do not credit them.

The Warrenton Whig, appears in a new dress, and typographically improved in every way. We are glad to see it prosperous, and hope it may continue to prosper. It is an excellent paper, conducted with spirit and vigor, and worthy the patronage of the public. Firm and decided in its politics, it is not bigoted; and always has, for the general reader, an interesting variety of miscellaneous matter.

The bill imposing State taxes for the ensuing year, for the support of government, now before the Legislature imposes a tax of forty cents on lands and lots, with improvements thereon, for every hundred dollars value thereof; and on all the other items of taxation, including merchants' taxes, licenses, &c., the rates we believe are not materially variant from the present ones.

In enumerating some of the Northern Free Soil papers which have condemned the outrage in the case of Judge Loring, we mentioned the Boston Traveller. We expect this is a mistake, for we have seen some extracts quoted from that paper since, of an opposite complexion. However, it is certain, that the act has been rebuked by several Free Soil journals.

It is an entire mistake, (as we see suggested), that the sickness at the University of Virginia, partakes in any of its symptoms of the nature of the disease at the National Hotel, in Washington, a year ago. The epidemic at the University is Typhoid Fever, clear, and unmistakable. This disease, as an epidemic, is not uncommon in the most salubrious localities.

The "feature of the day" in the House of Representatives, on Monday, was the very effective speech of the Hon. William D. Bishop, of Connecticut, in favor of the admission of Kansas into the Union. He was greeted with frequent applause from the floor and the galleries, and at the close of his remarks received the congratulations of many members of the House.

A number of the friends of the Internal Improvement bill, called upon Gov. Wise on Saturday evening, to congratulate him upon their success. They were courteously received and entertained. It is unnecessary to say that the Governor's wish was pronounced excellent.

If the sickness abates at the University of Virginia, and exercises are resumed this session, the Annual Commencement will take place on the 26th of July. Heretofore it has been on the 29th of June.

We learn that in consequence of the sickness of Mrs. Everett, Hon. Edward Everett has been compelled to postpone some of his engagements South, to deliver his address on Washington, and has returned to Boston.

It seems to be admitted that although Kansas may be admitted into the Union, she is "delivered over to the Abolitionists," who have control of the new legislature.

Orinoi, the would-be assassin, has addressed from his prison, a letter to the Emperor of the French, asking the Emperor to liberate Italy!

The Richmond Dispatch says that Richmond will put in her claims to the National Frendry, by and by.

News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the Times."

Gentlemen whose business brings them either directly or indirectly in connection with the operations of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, will be pleased to learn that the retiring board of directors did, before the close of their labors, and in obedience to the petition of a large number of persons doing business upon the canal—captains of boats and others—pass a resolution prohibiting the running of boats on the Sabbath day; and from and after this, all lock-keepers will be required to keep them (locks) closed on Sunday.

According to recent statements in Congress, Uncle Sam is by far the largest publisher of books not only in the United States but in the world. The subject has been recently debated in the Senate, and from that debate we learn that large as Uncle Sam is as a Printer, he is larger yet as a Book Binder. The cost of binding alone since July 1856, is six times as much as the whole cost of paper, printing and binding for the year 1847. The bill for printing and binding for the year last past has been over a million and a half of dollars.

The U. S. steamship Powhatan, the flagship of the East India squadron, Captain Pearson, arrived at St. Helena on the 27th of January, in twenty-one days' passage from Madeira. The passage was a smooth one, and the officers and crew were in fine health. The vessel was to sail for the Cape of Good Hope in a few days. Longwood, the former residence of Napoleon, is now used as a stable, and the island has a dreary and uncultivated appearance.

The President of the Northwestern Virginia Railroad has addressed a letter to the City Council of Baltimore, declaring the inability of the Company to pay its indebtedness to the city for interest on its bonds during the present year, and judging from its prospects as presented in a detailed statement, it will probably be some years before any relief to the tax payers of the city may be expected from that quarter.

Miss Juliana May does not appear to have succeeded in opera. The Philadelphia papers generally speak of her appearance there on Saturday evening, in the part of Amina, as a *fiasco*. The North American, however, says: "We do not relinquish the hope of seeing her yet a popular operatic artist, though it is evident she must undergo severe training before any fresh attempt in public."

A correspondent at Rio Janeiro writes on the 28th of January says: "The receipts of office from the interior are largely on the increase, with a decided downward tendency in prices. The sickness among the shipping which is usually brought on by the imprudent indulgence of sailors in fruits, drinks, and other excesses, is rapidly decreasing." This country is quiet.

During the last few days, there has been a very large discharge of employees in the Gosport Navy Yard, numbering between one hundred and fifty and two hundred. The discharged were mostly employed in the masonry departments, and as laborers in the department in which the appropriations by the Government had run out.

A Wheeling letter-writer says:—"The past winter has been one long to be remembered on account of the revivals of religion that have pervaded all the churches in this section of the country. Nothing equal to it has been known in this region of the country, even by the oldest members of our churches."

The bill authorizing the importation into Louisiana of 2,500 Africans, after passing the House of Representatives of that State, with little or no opposition, has been rejected in the Senate at the close of a most violent and exciting debate, by a majority of two. The measure is, therefore, for the present, essentially defeated.

The Cecil Md., Whig says the old Presbyterian church, at the Head of Christiansa, was burnt to the ground on Sunday the 14th, the fire catching between the ceiling and roof while the stoves were being lighted in the morning. It was a venerable old structure, having been erected in 1750.

A circular has been issued for signatures, calling a convention of the eight counties, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, to take into consideration the defeat of the Eastern Shore Railroad bill, in the late Legislature. It is proposed that the convention be held at Easton, on the 28th and 29th of April next.

De Bow's Press says:—"The Philadelphia Press is in error in regard to the condition of Thomas Washington Smith. He is at this moment in our service, and has been for several weeks, and in every respect gives evidence of an entire restoration of mental and physical health."

Despatches have been received at the War Department from Camp Scott, army of Utah. The information communicated by them is said to be of no special importance. The army was in good condition, the health of the soldiers good, and everything going on satisfactorily.

The Washington Union publishes a very interesting letter from the Hon. Rev. John Johnson, addressed to the mass meeting of the city of Baltimore, in which he expresses his approbation of the Kansas policy of the Administration, and argues the subject at considerable length and with much ability.

A German shoemaker, named Francis Rancho, has, together with his wife, been arrested at New Orleans for most atrocious cruelty to a slave boy, which resulted in his death. The evidence showed the unfortunate creature had been the victim of the most inhuman barbarities. When Rancho was arrested he was making preparations for interring the body, having obtained a certificate from one Dr. Allain that the lad, who was about eleven years of age, had died of disease. The doctor was arrested as an accessory to the murder, after the fact.

On Thursday afternoon some person unknown gained access to the room of Shawmut Lodge, Sons of Malta, in Boston, hastily deposited a fine infant boy therein, and left precipitately. The "Sons" have resolved to begeth the boy, and have taken measures to have him properly nursed and educated, so that in due course of time he may become in condition to be a member of the order.

An accident took place on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad during an early hour on Sunday morning, which resulted in the death of Mr. Joseph Walling, a tonnage conductor, and the wounding of the engineer, Mr. John Eckart, and considerable damage to the locomotive and cars.

A national convention of artists is in session at Washington. Among the delegates in attendance, are Messrs. T. B. Mayer, W. S. Tiffany, and Mr. Reubels. The meeting is but a small one.

Some vandal knocked off the right arm of the Washington Statue, in the City Hall Park, in New York, on Friday.

There are now in Baltimore, several gentlemen who came as agents for the British Government, for the purpose of contracting for the furnishing of three million feet of timber, to be used in the construction of vessels of war for Her Majesty's navy. The timber, it is thought, will be procured along the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

In the case of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church in Lancaster, Pa., involving the question whether a person can be compelled to kneel during certain portions of the service, it has been decided that persons attending a church cannot be compelled, in law, to observe its customs.

The London News of March 1st, devotes a very long article to the growth and decline of the slave trade. The article is a very valuable one, and contains much interesting information. It is a very well written in New York by some of the most ultra editors.

The religious excitement is unabated in various parts of the country. In Boston and other portions of Massachusetts the feeling is intense. Amongst other instances, it is stated that there are several towns in New England in which not a single adult person can be found who has not been converted.

The prayer meeting interest in Washington, is unabated. At the suggestion of a U. S. Senator, a committee has been appointed to select a suitable place not far from the capitol, so that members of Congress can attend such a meeting one hour each morning before the Houses proceed to business.

Rowdism is still rampant in New York and another dreadful homicide has been committed in one of the groceries with which the city is cursed. The victim is a notorious rowdy, and but little sympathy is felt for him.

Twelve of the Banks of New York are winding up their affairs and going into liquidation. Improvement in trade has become more and more visible the past week. The foreign news by the Arabia has had a downward effect upon stocks.

On Wednesday last, between ten and twelve o'clock, during a violent wind storm, some coal boats were lost at Line Island, on the Ohio, about fifty miles above Wheeling. Nine persons are supposed to have lost their lives by this disaster.

We have it from undeniable authority, says the Richmond South, that the Hon. Geo. M. Botts has consented to serve as Mayor of Richmond, if elected to the office. Mr. Jos. Mayo is the present incumbent, and a candidate for re-election.

The ship Mary Caroline Steves has arrived at Baltimore, from Liberia, Africa, having left Monrovia Feb. 3d. She brings a mail from the United States ship Vincennes, which left Monrovia on Jan. 27th for Cape Palmas. Officers and crew all well.

A meeting of citizens at Faneuil Hall, Boston, to express the sentiments awakened by the attack upon the independence of the Judiciary in the removal of Judge Loring, has been proposed and spoken of by many persons in that city.

The New York papers announce the death of David Moses, and the Philadelphia papers that of Robt. Ralston, each of whom were eminent merchants of those cities.

Telegraphic Despatches.

New York, March 22.—Sterling exchange has further declined; bankers' bills are 6 1/2, and for commercial 5 to 6 is the rate.

MARTINSBURG, Va., March 22.—George Murphy, esq., has been nominated by the democrats for prosecuting attorney of Berkeley county.

NEWPORT, March 22.—The steamer Palmetto, bound from Philadelphia for Boston, has gone ashore on Block Island, and from latest reports there, will be a total loss.—The cargo had already begun to drift. The passengers and crew were all fortunately rescued, and are at this port.

NEW YORK, March 22.—The weekly statement of the city banks shows an increase of \$2,146,000 in loans; \$95,000 in circulation; \$1,175,000 in nominal deposits, and \$621,000 in undrawn deposits. There is a decrease in specie of \$1,058,000.

AUGUSTA, March 22.—The presidents of the different banks in the city have had a meeting, and agreed to resume specie payments on the 1st of June, provided the banks of Savannah and South Carolina will resume at the same time.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The President has authorized sales of lands at Lecompton and Kickapoo, Kansas, on the 5th and 19th of July next.

The War Department has received despatches from Utah.

NEW YORK, March 22.—The auction sale of sugar to-day was brisk at fair prices.—400 hhds. New Orleans were sold at 54 1/2 cts.

TROY, N. Y., March 22.—Dr. Avery J. Skilton, one of the oldest and most respected physicians in this city, died on Saturday.

Following a Shark.

Some time ago, says the Norfolk Argus, a gentleman and one of his servants, a stalwart negro, went fishing for Rock on the Bay shore, about ten miles from Norfolk. They cast their hooks and lines, and waited for a bite. The big darkey, after wading out some feet from the shore, tied the line around his body. His master told him there was danger in doing so; but the fisherman seemed to have no difficulty or accident. Soon an old shark, a real old sea dog, came along and swallowed the bait with a good relish, and Sambo held the line with a firm grip. The powerful line with a firm grip gradually went in deep water, when, finding that he was in danger of being carried out to sea, in order to cut the line he made a desperate grasp at his knife, which was fastened to his head half shut, a portion of his hair being between the blade and the handle; but it was too late. The hungry monster of the deep, by a rapid movement, slackened the line and dashed furiously out from the shore, followed by the darkey, who alternately disappeared beneath the waves and rose to the surface, grabbing at the knife as he rushed on, and with almost lightning speed in the distance of nearly a mile, he was seen at the distance of the surface; but as he occasionally rose, far beyond the reach of assistance, and a victim to his own hazardous daring and imprudent temerity.

Massachusetts.

The action of Governor Banks, upon the repeated call of the Legislature of Massachusetts, amounts—in few words and plain English—to a formal avowal on the part of that State that she regards herself as being only bound by such provisions of the Constitution of the United States as suit the fancy, prejudice or temper of her population of the day. The rights and interests of others formally conserved in that instrument are proclaimed to be as naught to her. Indeed, the *quod erat demonstrandum* of this formal action of the Massachusetts State government is *that* slavery in the Southern States, over, above and around the guarantees of the Constitution.—*Wash. Star.*

A Retrospect.

Exactly this day ten years ago a hack cab drew up at a little door opening from the south-west corner of the Gardens of the Tuilleries into the Place de la Concorde, and after a few minutes there bustled out an old gentleman with an attendant, who got into the cab, and drove to the Arc de Triomphe, through the Bois de Boulogne, into the country, no matter where. It was Mr. William Smith, the last of the series of which Hugh Capet was the first, and which in the course of a thousand years comprehended the names of Charlemagne, St. Louis, Francis I., Henry IV., and Louis XIV. For considerably more than half the period since the Christian era, and for a third of the known history of the human race, the family of this old gentleman had ruled over one of the greatest nations in the world—in some respects the greatest. Indeed, at various times, at the interval of centuries, the nation and the family had even aspired to universal dominion, and, if not successful, were at least not ridiculous. On this occasion, however, the dynasty, the thousand and odd years, the Empire of the West, and a great deal more magnificence, that it would take the ghost of Mr. George Robins to describe and enumerate, had dwindled down to the person of a feeble old gentleman, without his accustomed vigour, apparently taking an airing in the Bois de Boulogne. On any other day this would have been the natural day of any one who had written to the President of the United States, which was February 25, 1848, Paris was in a state which, though certainly periodic, was not quite usual. There was fighting in the streets, barricades, cannon thundering away, "martyrs" falling by scores, and everything to make the place unpleasant to quiet old gentlemen of domestic habits, such as the one we have described. Mr. William Smith, the last reigning son of St. Louis, and of the other illustrious personages mentioned above, came by easy stages to the coast, "incoy" after a fashion—that is, in that state of half-recognition which consists in not recognizing that he was recognized. Thence he crossed the Channel to Newhaven, where he received the railway packet station at Louis Philippe, the King of the French, and entered freely into conversation with him, and everybody that chanced to fall in with him, on the savage nature of the population he had just passed through and the singular incidents of his journey. This was exactly ten years ago to-day, and as seventeen years had elapsed since the last epoch of the kind many people in this country seemed to think it a very alarming state of things, and began to tremble for France, not to say for their own country. Indeed, as regards other nations, these fears were more than realized. A sort of epidemic ensued among Kings, particularly the representatives of ancient dynasties. Some absconded; some signed constitutions, abdications, charters and bills, and nearly all disgraced themselves sadly. It was not till after a fruitful amount of fighting and a series of grisly executions that Kings once more felt easy on their thrones.

We all of us know what France was to have been long before the expiration of ten years—that is, according to say we listened to this or that prophet. So it is enough to say that France has not spent the ten years in anarchy; she has not expatriated all her priests and preceptors, or burnt all her palaces and churches. She has not poured her armies all over Europe, and helped to build publicans or Marshals to pull down and build up thrones. The contagion has not spread into this country, and no Mr. Smith has taken a passage to the United States, with an attendant discovered afterwards to be a fashionable Duchess. Indeed, no very prominent feature in the then existing order of things had passed away, except the particular family mentioned above, so far as regards its position in France. We still have Emperors, Kings, and all sorts of artificial institutions. But, if institutions survive, what has become of anticipations? Would that we had more to say for human freedom, and for the creative power of political wisdom and sagacity! Vulgar custom, the coarse stream of time, ingrained vice, inert matter, senseless law of motion, antiquated prejudice, and everything that can make a man feel little, have triumphed over the golden dreams of poets and philosophers. Where is the Republic which inaugurated itself at the Palace of the Legislature, and at that of the Luxembourg? Where are the illustrious members of that Council which rose straight out of the warm heart of a deliverer of nation? Dead, banished, nowhere—all, save one, Yes, Lamartine, the Titan of that storm, who tamed that chaos, and preached to Europe out of that whirlwind, is now employed in editing cheap serials, not with uniform success. The political results of that heroic struggle are the strongest and most rigid despotism in the world; a shadow of a Senate, a press without liberty, a splendid, if not fashionable, Court, Paris no longer the Hotel de Ville, the Louvre, the Louvre joined to the Tuilleries, and we are sorry to add, an average of two attempts a year to assassinate the Emperor, exciting a great deal of indignation in the higher ranks of the army, but regarded with not so much concern as we should wish to observe on the part of the people. That is the balance on the ten years' account. As far as we are concerned, we possess in the reigning Sovereign of France a much more zealous and honest ally than the abate Mr. W. Smith ever was. So far we have no reason to regret the change that has come on France since February 25, 1848.

But who could have possibly anticipated or imagined such an incident as that exactly ten years after the Glorious Days of February a new Government would be taking office in this country out of a French emergency, the result of an attempt to assassinate a French Emperor? Yet so it is. At this moment, French liberty—we use the word, of course, in that conventional sense imparted by political opinions—has taken up its abode in this country. In France it finds no rest for the sole of its foot. There the sons of freedom, whether Republicans or the adherents of a constitutional monarch, or the adherents of fallen dynasties, are condemned to whisper their complaints with fear and trembling while they tip their ears of long sorrow, and to disburden their hearts of long sorrow and rain hopes in futile correspondence with their friends across the Channel. Here the less resigned, less disciplined partakers of their opinions are engaged, it appears, in those conspiracies of which there is always one or more on hand in French politics. France is the land of intrigues and plots, and the only result of all the measures to detect and repress them is that they extend to this isle. Hence a still more unimaginable and preposterous consequence with the Union Bank swindle in that city.—The defalcation is ascertained to reach the sum of \$127,000.

"The ledger of the bank shows a deficiency of about \$118,000, but most of this must have been abstracted many years ago. Brotherton's wife covers freely in regard to it, and stated to a lawyer who called upon her, that some years ago, previous to their marriage, Brotherton told her that there was a defalcation in the Union Bank of \$100,000, and asked her if she would marry him knowing this fact? She consented, and has faithfully kept her secret, but she says that he has repeatedly resolved to make a confession to the President, but could not raise sufficient courage."

General Jackson's Religion.

Any expression of the religious sentiments of a hero who enjoyed a world-wide reputation will be read with interest. We are permitted to extract from the manuscript of the "biography of Rev. George Donnell," which is in course of preparation for the press, the following letter, addressed by Gen. Jackson to Col. Burton, of Charleston. Col. Burton had written to the General, giving him some account of the great revival of religion in Lebanon, which laid the foundation of the Lebanon church, and informing him that two of his nieces, Mrs. Col. Burton and Mrs. Gen. Caruthers, had professed religion and joined the church. The following is the General's reply to Col. Burton:—"WASHINGTON CITY, Nov. 24, 1831. "I am truly gratified to hear that your lady and Mrs. Caruthers, and many other ladies, have joined the Church. I would to God that you and Mr. Caruthers should follow this good example. No people can flourish without true, genuine religion, which expels hypocrisy and deceit from the walks, purifies society, and calls down upon a nation blessings from above. How joyful to me, dear wife, if she had been living, would this union of her nieces to the Church have been? If angels are permitted to know what mortals here below are doing, my dear wife, at the joyful tidings, is praising the Redeemer, and thanking him that so many of her dear friends have been awakened by the Spirit, and brought to experience the blessed change from death unto life, and to exclaim in the language of the Scriptures, that they now know that their Redeemer liveth. May you and Mr. Caruthers, and hundreds more of your friends, neighbors and connections, follow this example. "Present me to your lady and Mr. Caruthers, and assure them that I rejoice with them, and that I will give them peace and happiness in this world—firmness to meet misfortunes and visitations in this life—give them confidence that they can smile in Satan's face, and meet a frowning world. There is no real content and happiness in this world, except the consolations of religion derived from the promises contained in the Scriptures. "Have my little namesake (Andrew Jackson Burton) presented to the Church in baptism. "ANDREW JACKSON."

Packing Juries.

An important exposure and condign punishment has been inflicted upon the Deputy Sheriff and the High Constable of Philadelphia, for corruptly selecting a juror in the Freeth murder case. When the subject was brought to the attention of the Court by the prosecuting officer, Judge Ludlow, acting for the Court, directed a rule to be entered upon Wm. H. Laird, Deputy Sheriff, to show cause why he should not be punished for contempt in disobeying the orders of the Court by summoning jurors from the court-room, instead of "from the body of the county," as specially directed. The rule was made returnable on Saturday, and the answer, as well as the defence made in his favor, were so lamentably weak that Judge Ludlow (after making every possible concession in the examination) was obliged to direct the commitment of the deputy sheriff to the County Prison for ten days. The High Constable Carson, who was equally implicated in the infamy connected with the case, in his examination so clearly and unmistakably convicted himself that Judge Ludlow, upon his own view, very properly bound him over, in the sum of one thousand dollars, to answer the charge of perjury. After the bail had been taken, and the case was ready for trial, the crowded court-room, the disgraced officer went at once to the Mayor and resigned the trust which he had so flagrantly abused.—*Balt. Amer.*

Buried Alive.

A distressing case.—A letter dated Holland, Erie county, Pa., March 15, says:—"A very unfortunate dispensation of Providence has taken place within twenty miles of this place. A Presbyterian minister named Heston was called to attend a meeting of the presbytery. He stopped over night with another minister, at a private house. Mr. Reed was taken with a fit in the night, and it was supposed he had died. The other minister being in a hurry to get to the meeting in season, had him buried the next day. On his return from meeting he left word at Oxford that their minister was dead and buried. His friends went immediately to get his remains and bring them to Oxford, when to their great sorrow, they discovered that he had been buried alive. The cover of the coffin was split, and his shroud was completely torn off, and he turned round on his face. He was a bachelor, and a very worthy man. His dreadful death is much lamented."

Case of Col. Jack Hays.

As to the removal of Col. Jack Hays, we are satisfied that the correspondent of the South, is totally mistaken, in both the fact and the spirit of his statement. No man in the broad limits of this land recognizes more fully than Col. Hays the duty of a citizen to do as he sees fit, and to stand up for his rights. So prominently did the President place him in his estimate of men, that he selected him and his no less gallant confederates, Col. McCulloch, to be the standard-bearers of the national authority when Mormon rebellion first exacted its stern presence. We think we can assert, with some degree of confidence, that though the tender of the President was refused, that fact did not vary his estimate of the men. We do not speak with positive certainty, but we speak with the moral certainty of reliable information, that if Col. Hays has been removed it has been only to some better position or because of his own desire to be so.—*South Side Dem.*

Three Coffee Bags of Human Flesh.

At New York on Saturday morning, some police officers, patrolling near the beach at the foot of 30th street observed three coffee bags lying on the shore, just above high water mark. As the bags appeared quite full, the suspicions of the officers were aroused, and the bags taken to the station-house. The inspector immediately proceeded to open them, when to his and the bystanders' horror, they were found to be crammed full of human feet, hands, arms, fingers, and ears without number, appeared to their astonished sight as well as flesh cut up into small pieces, actually as fine as mince-meat. How these bags containing their awful load, came here is as yet unknown. They had no appearance of having been in the water, but evidently had been left upon the beach by those having them in charge, probably with the idea that the water might float them off. [They were from a dissecting room.]

Singular Story.

The N. Y. Journal of Commerce has the following remarkable statement in connection with the Union Bank swindle in that city.—The defalcation is ascertained to reach the sum of \$127,000.

Former Times in New Kent, Va.

While upon the subject of executions, my mind involuntarily reverts to the deplorable destruction of the clerk's office, together with the county jail. The former contained all the records and public papers of the county, which had been deposited there for preservation from the creation of the county, in 1654, up to the time of its being consumed by fire, which occurred on Sunday night, the 15th of July, 1787. As this is one of the most calamitous incidents connected with the history of New Kent, I purpose giving the readers of the Dispatch a summary of it.

John Price Posey, a lawyer by profession, for the commission of a misdemeanor, was arrested and committed to jail; but before the time arrived for his trial, a friend of his (Thos. Green), broke open the jail at night, and Posey made his escape. By tradition, I learn that Posey had a very valuable paper in the clerk's office which he wished to destroy, as it was to affect him materially in a pecuniary manner. He made an old servant named Sawney, who belonged to Gen. Chamberlayne, accompany him to the clerk's office and jail. Upon their arrival there, he ordered Sawney to apply the torch first to the jail, and as soon as this was accomplished, the office was set on fire and burned to the ground, with all the records and papers belonging thereto. Sawney was arrested and sentenced to be hanged, but was recommended to the clemency of the Executive by the tribulation before which he had his trial. Posey was arrested for felony, but refused promptly to be tried by the county court. He alleged that he was not within the jurisdiction of the court, as the members thereof were not legally commissioned and qualified pursuant to the laws of the land; and also, that no commissions of the peace of oyer and terminer could be produced in court, or could they be found in possession of the court, for all had been destroyed in the fire. He had set on fire. But after filing this bill of exceptions, and with his legal assistants, he could not extricate himself from the punishment he so justly merited. He was tried by the General Court, at Richmond, and doomed to die the death of a felon.—*Cor. of Rich. Dispatch.*

Burton's Theatre Prayer Meeting.

The noon prayer-meeting at Burton's Theatre New York, on Saturday was conducted by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. An immense audience assembled, many more pressing at the doors for admission, than the house could possibly accommodate. All the pit, the galleries, the proscenium boxes, even the sky light in the peak of the theatre, showed a densely packed mass of heads, all turned intently towards the stages where for some time Mr. Beecher sat alone. Within 15 minutes from the stroke of 12, however, those who had given up in despair the task of effecting an entrance at the front of the building, essayed a demonstration in the rear, and obtaining admittance went upon the stage and formed a decorous line of attentive observers in the rear of Mr. Beecher's chair. The view of the house from this standpoint was very extraordinary. Hardly a square inch of the theatre was unoccupied. In the palmiest days of Mr. Burton, there was never a crowd to compare to this. The deepest interest was manifested. Among the three thousand persons collected, there was not the least confusion or disorder.

During the exercises there came in from the neighborhood of the theatre a volume of musical sound—the singing of a hymn in another meeting. Mr. Beecher rose, and stepped to the foot-lights. Raising his hand, he stood quietly a moment, fixing the attention of the audience before he spoke:—"Brethren," said he, "do you hear that? Stop a moment! That's the sound of worship out of the old bar-room of this theatre! Let us spend two minutes in silent prayer and thanksgiving!" He resumed his seat, and for the three succeeding minutes the fall of a pin could have been heard. Then followed prayers for Mr. Burton, the owner of the theatre. One old gentleman in the first gallery prayed that the request of Mr. Burton to be remembered in the petitions offered up in this meeting, might be blessed to his benefit. Several affecting narratives were given.

Melancholy Death of a Young Lady.

A heartrending accident occurred on the 23d ult., at the residence of Mrs. Brown, in the parish of East Feliciana, La. The Bayou Sara Times furnishes the particulars.

Lawrence Brown, a young man of about twenty-one, his cousin, Mary J. East, and several other members of the family, were seated in the parlour, engaged in conversation, when a negro boy entered to inform Lawrence that there was a dead robin in the room near by. The young man had a loaded shot gun in his hand, waiting for the birds, and ran out, cocking his gun, but finding that they had flown away, he came back into the parlour, with his gun lying carelessly upon his left arm, the muzzle unfortunately pointed towards the persons in the apartment, attempting at the same time to uncork it, the hammer slipped from under his thumb, and came down with sufficient force to explode the cap, and the whole charge entered the left temple of Miss Mary J. East, causing instantaneous death. The gun was lowered, but the shot had not time to spread, but entered in a solid mass, penetrating to the opposite side of the skull. The unfortunate young man is so much affected by the circumstance, that he has been very ill ever since, and some fears are entertained of its effect upon his mind.

Shocking Affair.

On Saturday last, Robert Schmidt, of Theres, in Dodge county, shot down, in the street of that place, the first Soldier, a young lady of about 20 years of age. The parties were engaged to be married about one year ago, and Schmidt had come over from St. Paul, Van Buren county, Michigan, where he had resided about a year, to fulfil the engagement, but the parents of the young lady objected to the marriage, in consequence of which it was arranged between the lovers that Schmidt should first shoot the young lady, and then shoot himself. He executed his design so far as the young lady was concerned, but failed to shoot himself on account of the loss of the cap on his gun. After failing in this, he ran and threw himself into the river, with the intention to drown himself, but was rescued by persons who saw him. He is now arrested and awaits a trial. The charge (which was fine shot) entered the left breast of the young lady, and inflicted a horrible wound, of which she expired on Sunday morning, about 2 o'clock. She had her senses up to the last, and charged her parents with being responsible for the awful deed, and acquitted her lover of all blame. The parties, as the names indicate, were Germans.—*Milwaukee News.*

Senator Douglas.

The followers of Senator Douglas in both Houses, are working with him like bees, to defeat the Democracy, for the sake of defeating the Democracy, in the evident belief that unless they can secure the triumph of the Republican party in the next presidential election, the *faux pas* of their leader in essaying to attempt to dictate to the Democratic party that it shall mount the abolition platform for the time being in order to secure his return to the United States Senate after permitting, in the multitude of his engagements, his State to slip through his fingers, will be death to them. It is high time to speak as plainly as possible on this subject; and hence we do not hesitate to write of Mr. Douglas and his abnegating followers, and their labors and aims, as they are now spoken of by all Democrats in Washington in familiar conversation.—*Washington Star.*

Five Days in Washington.

The Chicago (Illinois) Times, of March 17th, contains a long editorial, written by one of its editors immediately after his return from Washington city, where he had been recently on a visit